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Asian Photography

AND IMAGING

Vol. 37 - No. 4

TIPS AND TECHS

**DRONE
PHOTOGRAPHY
ON THE ROAD:
WHAT YOU NEED
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**PORTRAITS OF A
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WITH LOCAL
COMMUNITIES**

**STREET
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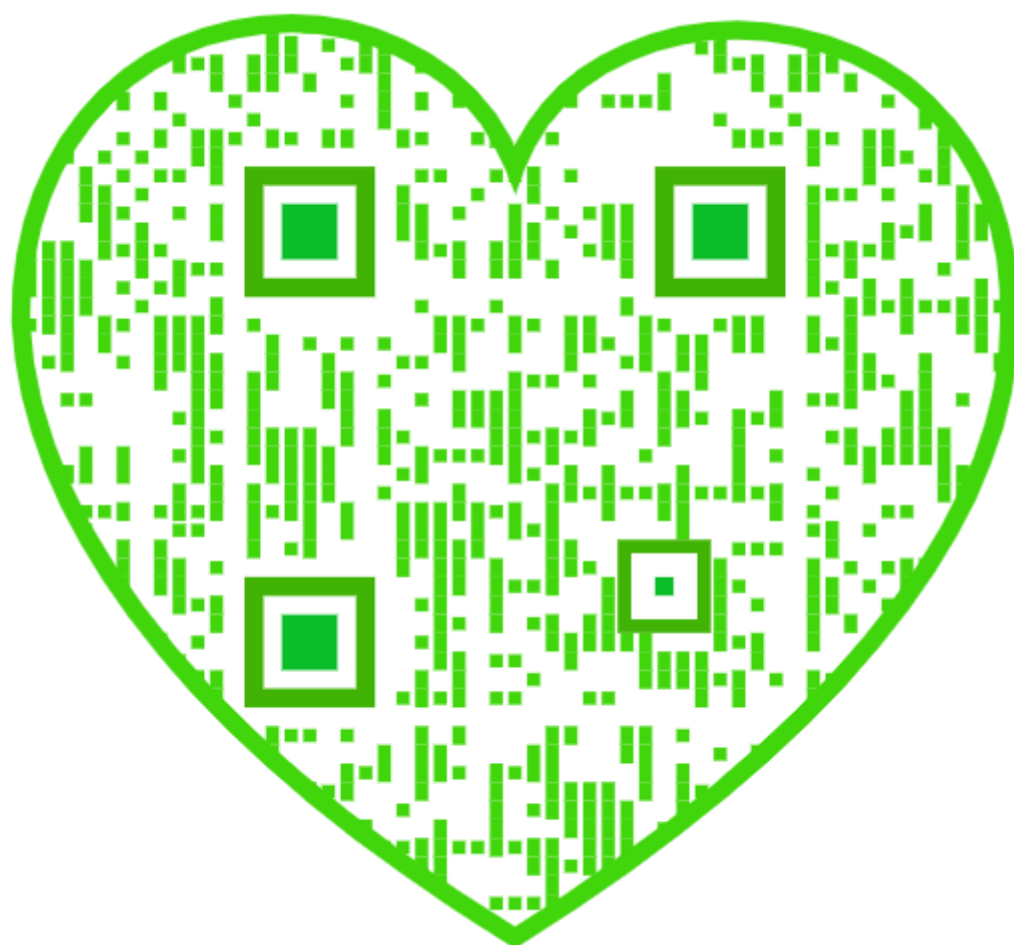
**TRAVELLING
THE WORLD'S
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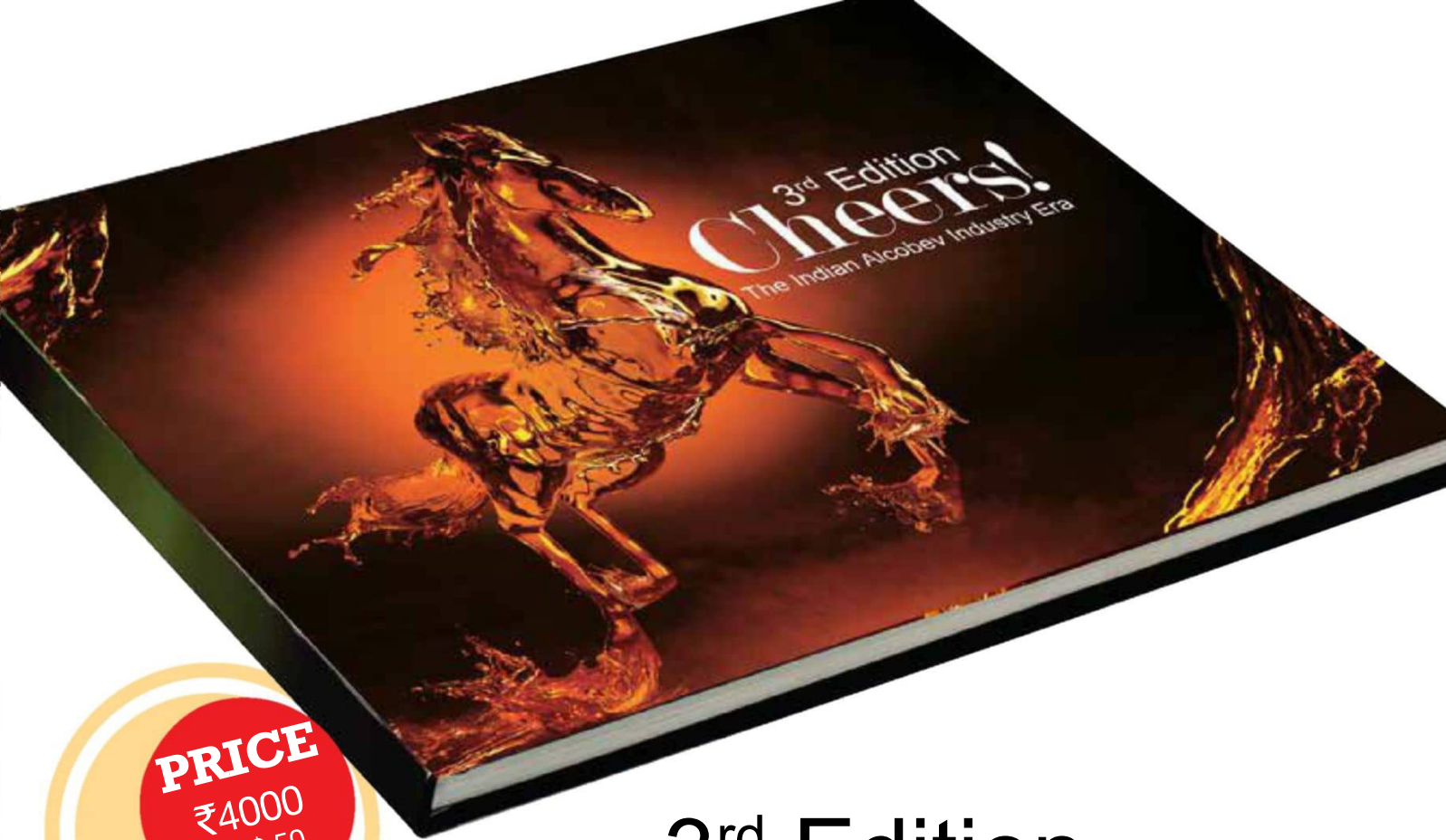
- Shreepad Gaonkar

**THE ART OF
CAPTURING
EXPEDITIONS**

- Alex Stead







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Bhavya Desai

Change the Game

Let's be honest - the world doesn't need another cliché sunset shot or a generic landmark selfie. Travel photography, at its best, is about breaking free from the predictable and digging deeper into the raw, unscripted pulse of a place. It's about capturing not just what a destination looks like, but truly encapsulating what it 'feels' like.

The beauty of travel photography lies in its unpredictability. Forget perfect conditions and studio lighting. Gone are those days when everything in photography needed to be perfect. Today is all about being fast, gritty and real. The charm is in the chaos - the local market overflowing with colour and noise, the sudden downpour that turns streets into rivers, the unplanned detours that lead to your best stories. Great travel photographers don't just chase beauty, they chase the truth. They hunt for moments that feel alive, even if they're imperfect. Especially if they're imperfect.

In a world flooded with content, it's easy to fall into the trap of shooting for likes rather than meaning. But the truly memorable images are the ones that tell a story beyond the frame. They're the images that make you pause, lean in, and wonder about the people, the culture, the history frozen in that split second of time. They spark curiosity instead of feeding wanderlust clichés.

But here's the catch - with great access comes great responsibility (like Spiderman). Pointing a lens at someone is not a neutral act. It's an exchange. A moment of trust. Ethical travel photography demands respect - for people, their privacy, and their stories. The goal isn't to exoticise or consume a culture, but to represent it with honesty and dignity.

And don't let gear obsession weigh you down. The sharpest camera in the world won't save a soulless photo. It's your eye, your instinct, your ability to connect with your environment that turns an image from ordinary to unforgettable. Shoot with intent. Embrace the flaws. Tell it like it is.

At the end of the day, travel photography isn't just about showing the world you've been somewhere. It's about making the viewer feel like they've been there too. Strip away the filters, ditch the staged shots and let's capture the heartbeat of the world as it really is.

Bhavya Desai

Bhavya Desai

bhavya_desai

Asian_photography_magazine

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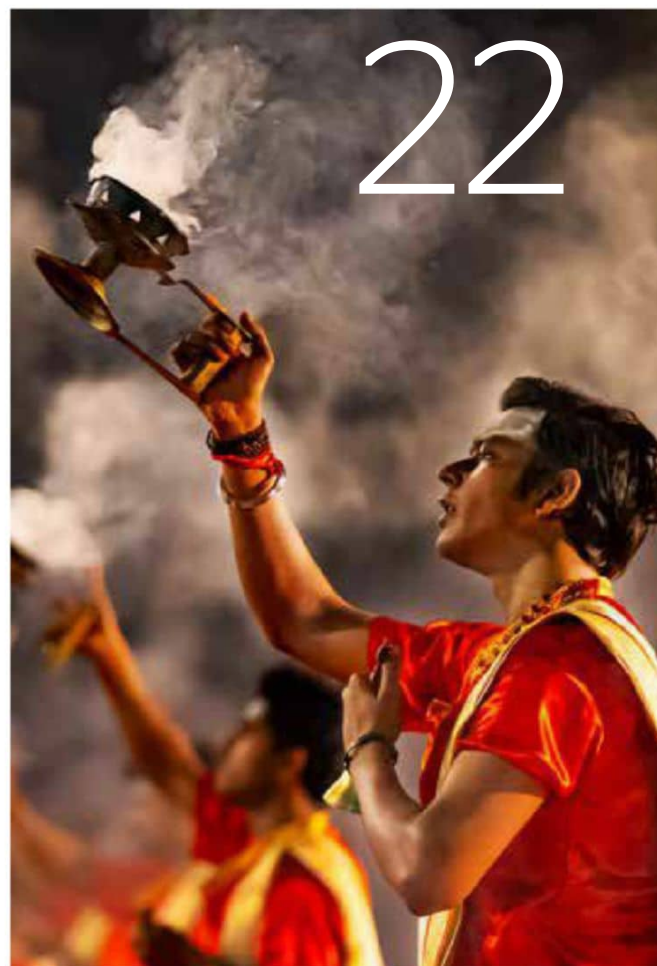
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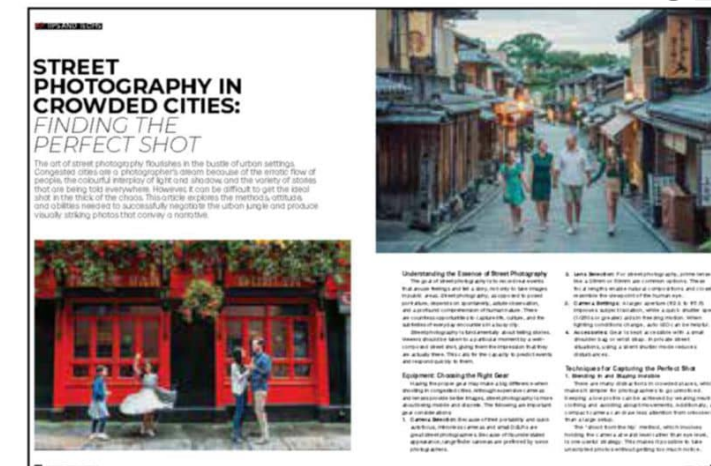
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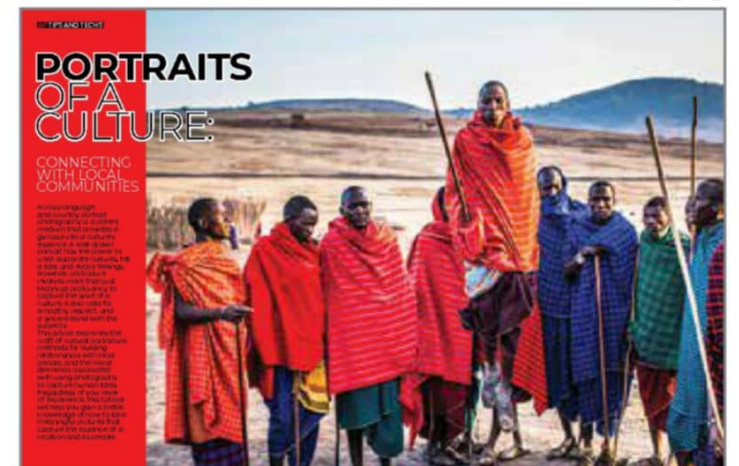
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Readers' Comments and Suggestions...

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Dear Editor,

I read your article on the Canon R50 vs R100 and I must say that I was very confused before reading it. But after reading the article I was clear of what I want to buy. So wanted to thank you for the same.

**Regs,
Lucky**

Dear Lucky,

Thanks a lot for your message. I am happy that you were able to finalise what camera you need to buy after reading my article. In case if you like videos, then we have made a video of the Canon R50 vs Canon R100 as well on our YouTube channel.



LETTERS TO EDITOR

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Hi,

I bought the Canon R100 at 37k and at this price point, it's much better than the R50 which is still around 66k. I used the leftover money and bought 50mm STM Lens so now it's giving better output at good price point. So, I am very happy with this decision.

**Regs,
Mohan Prasad**

Dear Mohan,

It is good to know. It is always better when you know what you want to do with the camera and use that budget wisely to pick good lenses. That is the advice that I also give to any readers when they ask me – to invest in a good lens line up. Glad you did that.



Dear Editor,

I had a question about the Neopack 3-in-1 charger. Does it charge the Samsung Ultra Series at 15 watt?

**Regs,
Aditya**

Dear Aditya,

Yes, it does charge the Samsung Ultra Series at 15 watt. Ideally any device which accepts wireless charging should be able to get charged with it. The speeds might vary. But in this case, it does charge at 15W.



Sony India launches 400-800mm Super Telephoto Zoom Lens at ₹264,990

Sony India has recently announced the FE 400-800mm F6.3-8 G OSS, its first 800mm super-telephoto zoom G Lens. Designed for wildlife, sports, birding, and landscapes, this lens offers high-resolution performance, fast autofocus, and superior stability with an inner-zoom mechanism that maintains its center of gravity.

With six ED glass elements, an 11-blade circular aperture for smooth bokeh, and advanced coatings to reduce flare, the lens ensures outstanding clarity. Two precision linear motors enable fast, silent autofocus, keeping up with the Alpha 9 III's 120 fps burst speed. A focus range switch and focus hold buttons enhance usability.

Optical image stabilization allows handheld shooting without blur, while a durable, dust and moisture-resistant



design ensures reliability. The tripod mount foot rotates easily for horizontal or vertical orientation. Compatible with 1.4x and 2x teleconverters, it extends up to 1600mm.

Available across Sony stores and dealers in India from March 17, 2025, for ₹264,990.

Canon India launches EOS R50V APS-C Body and RF 20 mm F/1.4 L VCM Lens

Canon has recently unveiled the EOS R50 V and RF-S 14-30mm F4-6.3 IS STM PZ, designed for next-gen content creators. The EOS R50 V, a video-centric camera without a viewfinder, features a lightweight design optimised for vertical shooting, enhanced ergonomics, and a dedicated button layout for seamless video creation. It supports Canon Log 3, oversampled 4K 30p, cropped 4K 60p, and Full HD 120p recording.

With features like Cinema View, Slow & Fast Motion mode, and professional tools like false colours and zebras, creators can achieve cinematic results. Dual Pixel CMOS AF II, Register People Priority, and Movie Digital IS enhance autofocus and stabilization. The camera also supports XF-HEVC S / XF-AVC S formats, Custom Pictures, LUTs, and 3-mic noise reduction for professional workflows.

For livestreaming, the EOS R50 V offers multiple connection methods, including USB-C and HDMI, with cropped 4K 60p streaming. The Smooth Skin Movie mode and Movie for Close-Up Demos AF further refine content.

The RF-S 14-30mm F4-6.3 IS STM PZ is Canon's first RF lens with built-in power zoom, offering smooth servo zooming via the lens, camera controls, or a smartphone app. Its lightweight design maintains balance on gimbals, while 5-axis image stabilization ensures steady shots. The lens' 22.4-48mm equivalent focal length makes it versatile for wide and close-up shooting, with a 0.15m close focus and 0.38x magnification for detailed content creation.

Canon EOS R50V + 14-30mm kit is priced at ₹79,995 and the RF-S 14-30mm lens is priced at ₹33,995



Canon India announces RF 20 RF 20mm F/1.4 L VCM

Canon has also expanded its RF Hybrid Primes line-up with the RF 20 mm f/1.4 L VCM lens. Joining the 24 mm, 35 mm, and 50 mm f/1.4 lenses, this ultra-wide-angle lens offers smooth autofocus, minimal focus breathing, and a physical iris ring for video shooters. Weighing 519g, it has a 67 mm filter thread, a rear filter holder, and is dust-resistant.

Designed for both stills and video, the lens features built-in focus breathing reduction for stable compositions, smooth subject tracking, and silent operation. Its high-thrust VCM ensures precise, rapid autofocus, while a clickless iris ring allows seamless aperture adjustments during filming. The lens shares consistent size, weight, and controls with Canon's other f/1.4L VCM primes, reducing the need for rebalancing when swapping lenses.

Optically, the RF 20mm F1.4L VCM introduces BR optics to minimise chromatic aberration, along with aspherical elements that correct distortions like sagittal coma flare—perfect for astrophotography. ASC and SWC coatings reduce flare and ghosting, ensuring crisp, high-resolution images even in challenging lighting. With its outstanding image quality and future-proof design for 8K imaging, this lens is a must-have for professionals seeking both precision and versatility.

The Canon RF 20mm F/1.4 L VCM is priced at ₹1,58,995.



Fujifilm launches the World's First Medium Format Fixed-Lens Rangefinder Camera

Fujifilm has recently announced the GFX100RF, its first fixed-lens mirrorless camera in the GFX system. Weighing 735g, it features a 102-MP medium format sensor paired with a 25mm f/4 lens. The fixed 35mm f/4 lens features a leaf shutter for quieter operation and improved

hand-held stability.

Designed for portability, the GFX100RF lacks in-body stabilization, but features a digital teleconverter that adjusts the focal length to 36mm, 50mm, and 63mm (full-frame equivalent) while maintaining full resolution in RAW. What's

new is a dedicated dial for aspect ratio, which also includes two new formats: 3:4 and 17:6. The "Surround View" function helps frame compositions outside the selected ratio.

Powered by Fujifilm's X-Processor 5, the camera enhances dynamic range, low-light performance, and autofocus accuracy with subject tracking for animals, vehicles, and more. It records up to 4K/30p 4:2:2 10-bit in F-Log2, supports Frame.io Camera-to-Cloud, and includes a built-in 4-stop ND filter.

Additional features include dual SD card slots, mic and headphone jacks, USB-C, and micro HDMI. The 0.84x EVF offers 5.76 million dots. Priced at US \$4,899.95, the GFX100RF ships in late April with a protective filter, adapter ring, aluminium lens hood, and a rope-style strap included in the box.



Viltrox launches LAB 135mm F/1.8 Lens For Nikon Z Mount

Viltrox's LAB 135mm f/1.8 prime lens, previously available for Sony E-mount, is now coming to Nikon Z. Prioritising optical performance over compactness, it weighs 1,235g— heavier than Nikon's 135mm f/1.8 S Plena (995g).

The lens features fast, precise autofocus with Viltrox's Quad HyperVCM motor. It features a 11-bladed diaphragm and 14-element design that claims to enhance sharpness while minimising distortion, flare, and vignetting. A 0.72m (2.36 ft) minimum focus distance allows for 0.25x magnification, matching Sony's equivalent and surpassing Nikon's Plena.

The weather-sealed magnesium alloy body includes a personalised lens screen, multifunction ring, AF/MF switch, and aperture de-click switch. On Nikon Z cameras, the multifunction ring can control aperture, ISO, or exposure compensation.

The Viltrox LAB 135mm f/1.8 for Nikon Z is available now for US \$854.



Sigma announces Extremely Minimal “BF” Camera

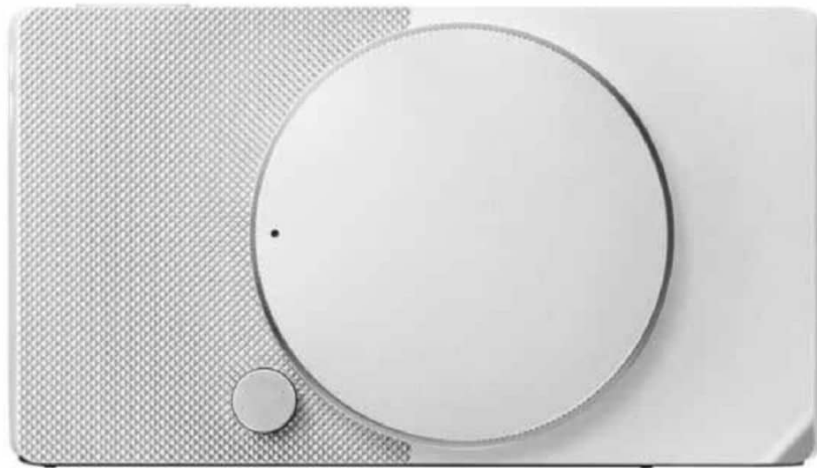
Sigma has unveiled the BF, a compact 24.6MP full-frame interchangeable lens camera designed for pure photography with a radically simple interface. The L-mount BF measures 5.1×2.9×1.4 inches and weighs 518 grams, featuring just three buttons, a dial, and a shutter release to remove distractions. Key settings like shutter speed, aperture, and ISO are adjusted via the touchscreen,

while a secondary status monitor keeps the live view uncluttered.

It is also the first mirrorless camera with haptic feedback on key controls for a responsive user experience. The body is a true unibody design, machined from a single block of aluminium over seven hours, ensuring durability and balance with lenses. Instead of memory cards, it includes a built-in 230 GB SSD, capable of storing 14,000 JPEGs, 4,300 RAW files, or 2.5 hours of 6K video.

The 24.6MP sensor supports ISO 100–102,400 (expandable to ISO 6) and features hybrid autofocus with phase and contrast detection. It records 6K video at 29.97fps, 4K at 60fps, and 1080p at 119.88fps in L-Log (H.264/H.265). The camera offers 13 colour modes for creative expression.

Sigma is also updating its I Series prime lenses, adding a silver finish to match the BF and updating laser engraving on all nine models. The Sigma BF ships in April 2025 for US \$1,999, available in black or silver.



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THE ART OF CAPTURING EXPEDITIONS



Alex Stead

Alex Stead is a professional photographer known for capturing breathtaking landscapes, adventurous expeditions, and dynamic lifestyle imagery. With over a decade of experience, his work spans from the Arctic to the deserts, blending storytelling with stunning visuals. He has collaborated with global brands and tourism boards, crafting compelling narratives that inspire wanderlust. He also has a deep passion for wildlife and remote expeditions. **Asian Photography** caught up to him to talk about his background, storytelling, expeditions, and the evolution of travel photography.





Do you remember the first photo you ever took that made you think, “This is what I want to do”?

Growing up, I’ve always wanted to be a photographer, but I didn’t really know that it could be a proper career or that I could make a living out of it. I spent a lot of my childhood wandering London with my camera, capturing the city. In 2012, it was the Olympics which were being held in London, and we’d managed to get a few tickets to some events. One of which was the Men’s 200 Meter with Usain Bolt, and we luckily had pretty good seats. So as a 15-year-old with a big lens I had borrowed, I managed to get some great photos of the event. While I’d know for a while that I wanted to be a photographer, this gave me great confidence that it could be something I could achieve. Even though I never went into sports photography, I tried all areas of photography before finding travel, lifestyle and automotive which is mostly what I do today.

How do you decide what stories to tell through your photography?

When deciding what stories to tell through my photography, I consider several factors. I think about what resonates personally with me and what stories I want to convey. This could be an intriguing destination or a theme that has caught my interest. I also reflect on the relevance

of the story to my audience or the client, looking for topics that might inspire or evoke a strong response. Additionally, I consider the visual elements available, such as lighting, composition, and colour, ensuring they can effectively communicate the intended narrative. I also want to explore as much of the world as I can, so I look for intriguing places which I’d like to capture.

What’s the hardest thing to capture in travel photography that people might not realise?

I think travel photography in general is all quite hard and easy at the same time. It’s very easy most of the time to travel to a country and take a photo, like a lot of normal tourists do. However, it’s a very different and challenging job to capture a location in a way which grabs someone’s attention on the front of a website or a magazine. It’s hard to always create captivating images when it’s not always ideal conditions, so your creativity always has to be switched on to the max at every location. To make sure you get the most captivating photo, the best composition, you are in the right place for the best light which could only last a few seconds.

I think overall as a travel photographer you have to master so many photography skills and environments. For example, I could be one week in Antarctica and the next in the desert, so I very much learnt over the years how to work in different



environments and that’s something which people don’t realise is hard. How you have to adapt your photography skills to the environment very quickly. Not to mention how physically hard sometimes photography can be, I usually carry about 15KG of camera gear. Perhaps more if I need big lenses for wildlife.

How do you choose your next destination to photograph?

Most of the time the places I end up aren’t down to me, but it’s down to my paying clients. Of course, I spend a lot of my time pitching projects or ideas to clients, however the creative teams in their agencies or the brand HQ make the decision where a project will happen. That said, I love to have more personal projects where I reach out to tourism boards or brands in certain countries and put together a project there. In the future, I want to spend a lot more time in the Arctic and the Antarctica regions exploring, so I’ve been pitching ideas to expedition companies.

I also love capturing wildlife, so I’m constantly pitching ideas around that, however there isn’t a huge amount of income from wildlife photography, so these are mostly personal projects.

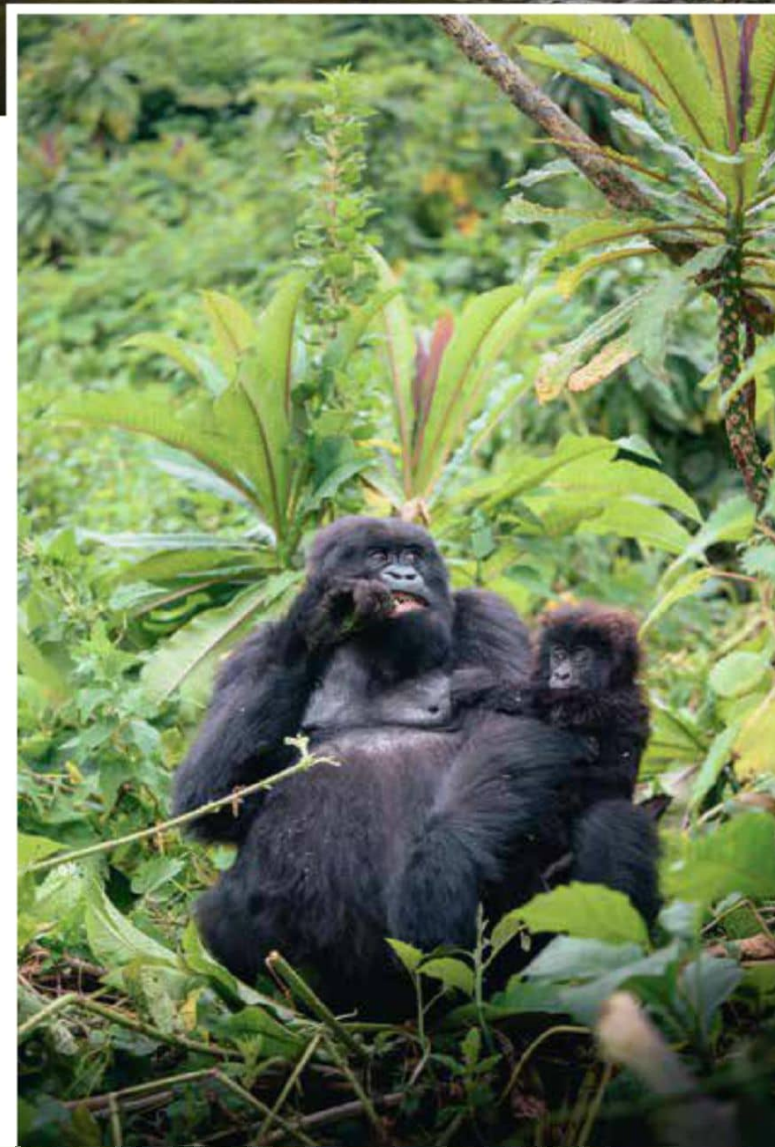
Do you travel with a plan in mind, or do you let spontaneity guide your photography?

I always do a lot of research before going on a trip, I really want to get to know the places I’m going before I set off. I spend a lot of time on Google Maps and street view understanding the environment. Especially if I’m shooting for a client, we have a lot of locations and ideas in mind, so we are on the same page about what we are producing. That said, things don’t always go to plan, or you find a hidden gem which didn’t come up in your research, so it’s good to be spontaneous at times and see where it takes me. When on location we always try to find a good local guide and that really helps us get the most out of the trips I do. I love going to countries where you can self drive and explore though. Places like New Zealand have been one of my favourites to go to as you can just road trip and explore with being spontaneous.

What do you do when things don’t go according to plan?

I’ve learned over the years how to be very adaptable and embrace change quickly. Before a trip I do a lot of research on the places I’m going and always have a backup plans if things





go wrong. A lot of the time on travel projects we don't book accommodation till the same day and change our itinerary constantly with the weather.

Of course, this is not always possible in more remote areas, however it certainly helps to be as adaptable as possible. Sometimes, even with all of this, you don't always get the most ideal conditions for the photos you imagined creating at that location. However, with a lot of my work if the weather is "bad" I lean into the more interesting weather. I think as a travel photographer you learn quickly to shoot in all weather, lighting, and environment conditions. Within that, looking for more interesting compositions, for example.

What's one piece of gear you can't live without? Give us a checklist you follow to ensure everything's in place.

For me, I use a polarizer in a lot of my work, so this is something which I couldn't live without. A polarizer reduces reflections and glare, intensifies colours, and darkens skies. I think it's a great way of improving your daytime work and making the light less harsh.





How do you see travel photography evolving in the next decade?

It's hard to say where I think travel photography is going, however the changes I've seen in my 10+ years of doing this, travel photography is evolving a lot more into short format video. With the rise of social media, 9x16 video is highly popular, so I see a lot of photographers including myself adapting to this medium and telling stories through this. One thing I really hope stops is the rise of AI-generated travel content. However I see this growing and growing sadly to a point where we can't tell what is real and what is fake.

What's your best photo till now and the story behind it?

I don't think I can say I have one "best photo", however one I took about six years ago really still stands out to me. I was in Iceland on a long term project for a company and was watching sunset at the iconic black sand beach lookout. It was I believe late April/ early May so was coming towards puffin season, however so far on the trip and the hours being at this view point we hadn't seen them. However, as it got closer to sunset, they came out and were diving off the cliff to go fishing. I noticed two puffins coming together quite often so I laid down and slowly moved closer trying not to disturb them. I also changed lenses to a much wider one, most



people shoot puffins with a 70-200 mm, but for this I'd got a 14-24 mm to try to capture the sunset and landscape.

What's one thing you wish you knew before you started?

I wish I knew a lot more about the business side of photography. It's not an easy industry, and actually 80% of my time is spent behind a desk running the business side of things.

TEXT: ANIRUDH IYER

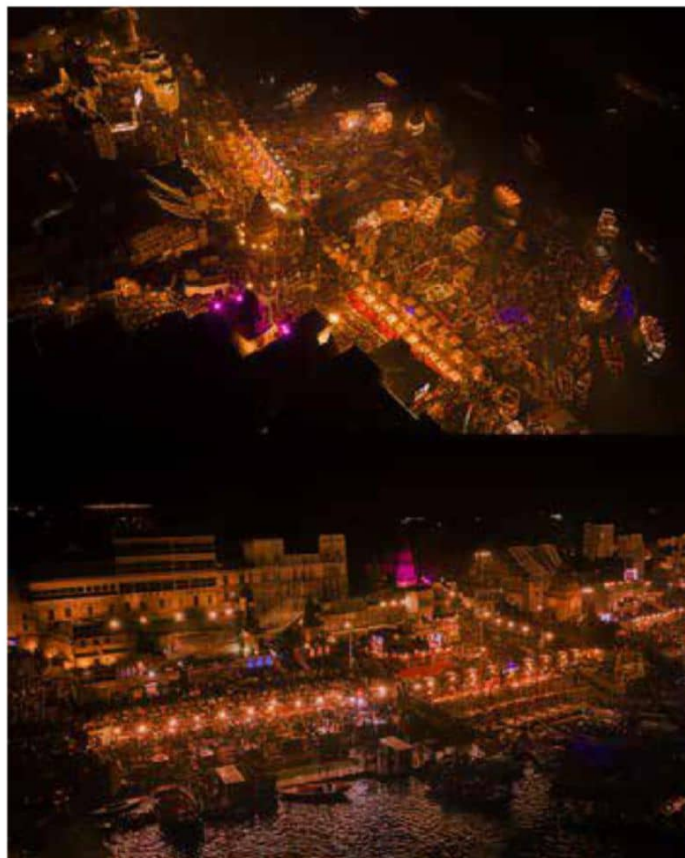
TRAVELLING THE WORLD'S GULLIES



Shreepad Gaonkar

Shreepad Gaonkar was an avid cricketer when he picked up a camera for the first time to document his journey and, later on, a tournament. What has transpired since then, is an inspiring spectacle, as he's travelled over 34 countries, working with various tourism boards. **Asian Photography** spoke to him about ethical and responsible travel photography, bucket shots, challenges and more. Excerpts:





What inspired you to take up travel photography?

Ever since I was a kid, I was into cricket, which I played for over 18 years throughout school, university, club and corporate cricket. I completed my B.Sc. IT degree and later did a Sports Management degree working for six years in IPL as an Operation Manager across 11 cricket stadiums in India. I was playing club cricket in Mumbai, organising grassroot cricket tournaments, coaching under 14 kids and also working in IPL & ISL at the age of 22. This indirectly introduced me to documenting my travels on the phone over the years until one day I realised that I was good at it and people started appreciating it on social media. Eventually, I ended up borrowing my friend's DSLR just to understand what a camera is, how to operate, what settings to set, etc. My hunger grew with every small thing I loved about the camera, which led me to my first official shoot for a cricket tournament — capturing a T20 match at DY Patil stadium, which would also open my doors for travel. So my passion for cricket and my curiosity for documenting and travelling made me get into photography.

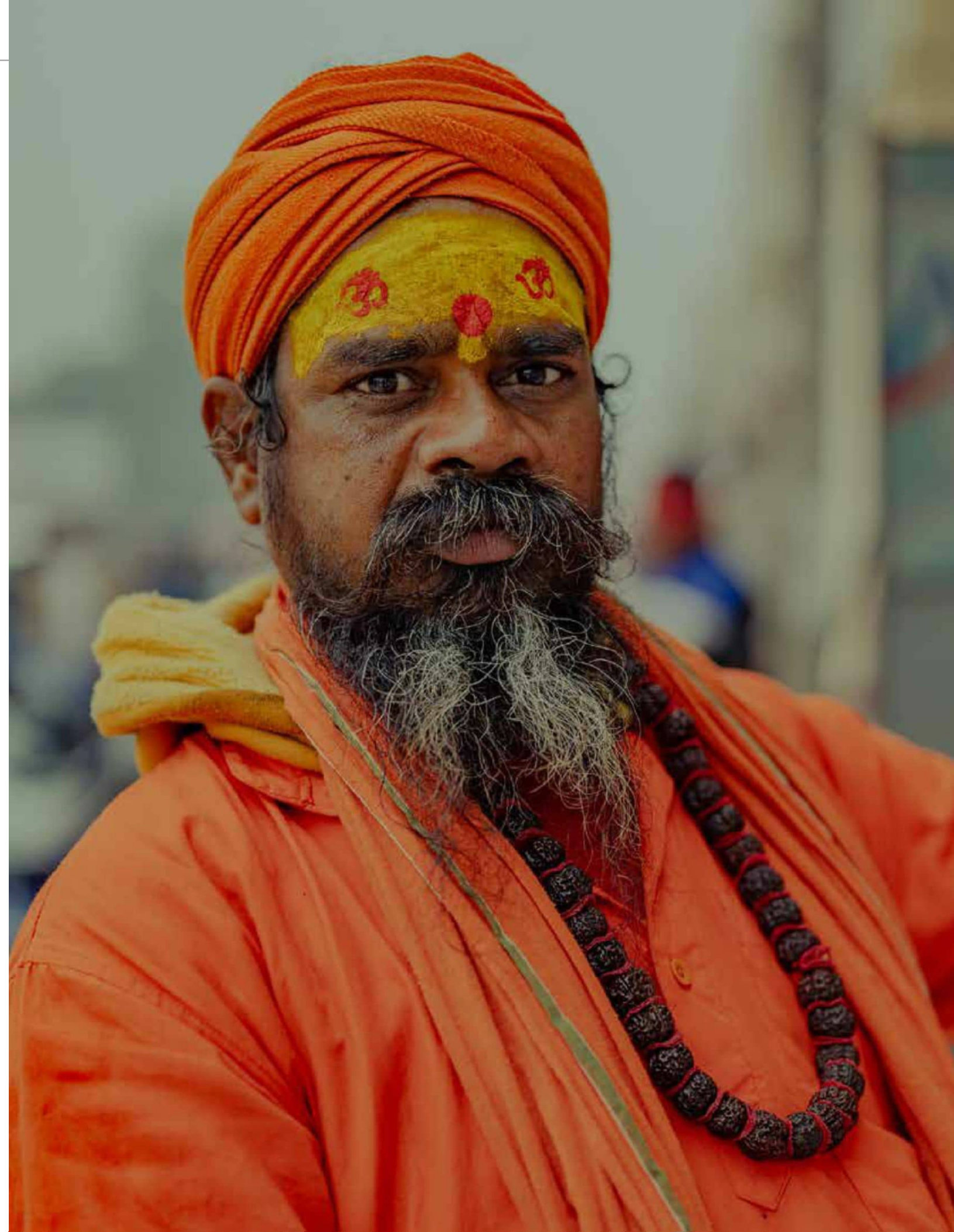
What are some of the biggest challenges you face as a travel photographer? Have these changed over the years?

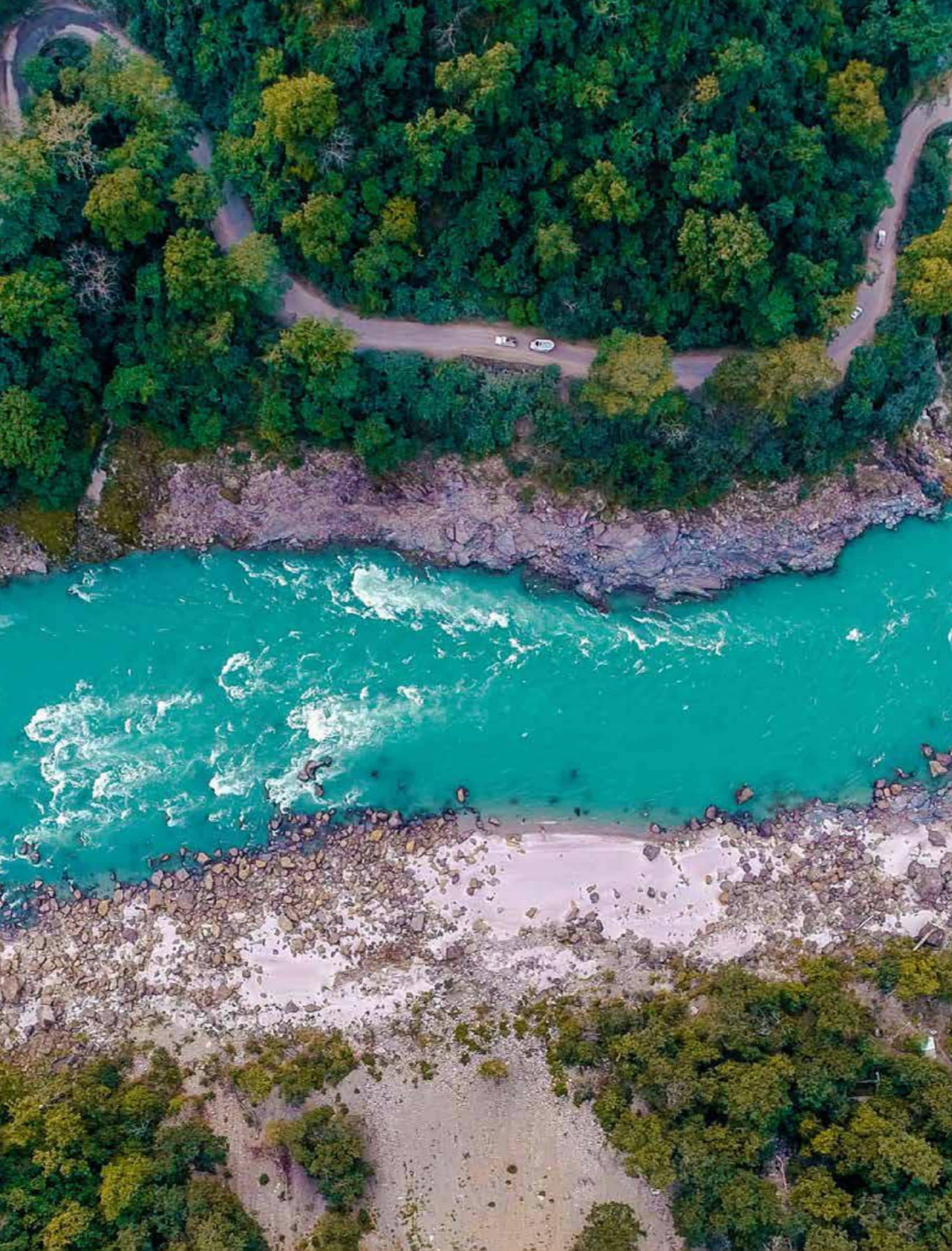
Firstly, I believe travel photography/cinematography is not everyone's cup of tea, I have seen the best DOPs struggle when it comes to a guerrilla shooting or a "run & gun" travel shoot which has challenges that come out of nowhere. You have to adapt to situations and luckily, my previous work

culture from managing IPL and major leagues and handling immense pressure 24x7 really made me tough mentally. Now, when I have challenges, I always look at it as with my management brains rather than me being a photographer. Some of the biggest challenges I face is while taking drone shots in India, the process is really way long to ideally secure aerial permissions as compared to other countries. I have been to 34 countries and the process to get the permits overseas is much easier even for a beginner or a tourist than taking permissions in India, that really hurts.

How do you balance travelling light while still having the right equipment?

I honestly film a lot more than photography, but I travel with just a couple of lenses, and right now, using a Sony A7S3. The process is to have variable lenses with a combination of a prime either 35mm or a 50mm. I prefer filming handheld more than using a gimbal, as handheld gives you more natural and dynamic perspective. I add one drone, usually my Mavic Air 2s which is lighter than newer drones and this specific drone has travelled with me to 26 countries, so it works out to be the best for me. Also over the years, I've realised that you actually don't need a dozen equipment when you travel as long as you are clear of what you want as the end output. I film as per the edit, as I edit myself, so when I am on ground filming I have an advantage of choosing what I want to shoot and how the film ought to look like.





Over the years, has the story behind the shot taken a backseat over aesthetics?

Yes, the audience and the brands I work with at times are very specific with what they want rather than what inputs I can give as an artist. I believe a lot of photographers and videographers will agree with this – oftentimes, we like to keep a raw and natural touch to the art with minimal post-production, but the focus has been shifting on the other side nowadays. When working for a lot of tourism boards, I always suggest to film in the natural environment with more focus on candid moments. This really brings out the best visuals, which looks more natural and real rather than appearing staged. Yes, aesthetics are important, but It’s a superb feeling to make a non-fiction as a fiction, the clients really like it, and it brings out the story really well.

Has the advent of “Instagram photography” influenced how you shoot pictures?

I’ve been on Instagram since 2013 and a lot has changed over the past 11 years. I would say it has played a critical role in my career, as it really shaped my thought process over the years. In a way, yes, it influenced me in a lot of ways. It inspired me to make content whether it is reels, carousel, stories and put forth my perspective to the world. Eventually adapting to the world and blending my style with it, but the intent was always learning something new and less focus on the numbers and followers. A lot of my colleagues appreciate my work and mention that I should have a million followers,

but I always stick to the quality of the content rather than just the quantity. As I firmly believe that what matters the most for me is I do justice with my perspective and the final output, rest will follow.

Is there a place you keep returning to because of its photographic appeal?

Filming and capturing the Ganpati festival in Mumbai and Lalbaug. Wherever I am in the world, I make sure I never miss filming Ganeshotsav. I have been following this ritual for 10 years, and have made three official YouTube songs, countless reels and some epic memories. I have learned more on the streets of Lalbaug than anywhere in the world. The Lalbaug chaos helped me shape myself as a multitasker as you have very limited time to do everything — photos, videos, flying a drone, video editing and then coming back home to craft the entire thing.

What are your thoughts on ethical travel photography?

We should be ethical in general in everything we do. The discipline, the passion, the values I learned on the cricket field has taken me places. Being a sports person, I’ve always had a certain way of approach in doing things and I implemented them on & off the field – which indirectly helped me reach where I am. Not that I have achieved a lot, I am still learning. Respecting people, culture, different environments is an integral part of travel photography/videography. For instance,





I always try to communicate to people if I badly want a portrait or If I see some unique character on the streets I take their consent before filming, and how do I do it? I just give a smile if they greet back, then start the conversation. It works at times and if it doesn't, I simply say "it's alright, no worries". Moreover, we should always be careful of what environment we are filming in. For instance, I was filming for Israel Tourism at Dead Sea and I had the official permission to fly the drone for one hour, but I only flew for 10 minutes to get the overall vibe, considering the border issues. So being proactive but what environment we are filming is really very important.

With overtourism being a growing issue, how do you practice responsible travel photography?

Yes, it's a matter of concern. We should be mindful of what we do, there are creators who will risk everything to take photos and videos just for views and numbers, but we ought to think about other outcomes too. Another practice is we should try to film during the non-peak hours especially if we are filming in different countries so it doesn't disturb or create unnecessary hassle. Highlights should be on the culture, history, and the story, not just the aesthetics.





Where do you see the future of travel photography going?

The future of travel photography is evolving fast, influenced by technology. We should thrive for more authentic content, immersive story telling capturing the real essence of the place. I am really super impressed by the immersive videos made for Apple Vision Pro and really looking forward to getting into that, which is the next step of making interactive videos using the VR and 360 gear.

Do you have a bucket shot?

Yes, I do have a bunch of them. Having travelled in over 34 countries, I wish to at least do 190 in this lifetime. Last year I was in Lapland in Finland and I saw the Northern lights for the first time, but that was like just for 10 minutes, and in that time, I just captured a couple of shots. I really hope to do it again and capture a time lapse of the Northern Lights and an aerial shot of me with the active volcanoes in Iceland.

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY IN CROWDED CITIES:

FINDING THE PERFECT SHOT

The art of street photography flourishes in the bustle of urban settings. Congested cities are a photographer's dream because of the erratic flow of people, the colourful interplay of light and shadow, and the variety of stories that are being told everywhere. However, it can be difficult to get the ideal shot in the thick of the chaos. This article explores the methods, attitude, and abilities needed to successfully negotiate the urban jungle and produce visually striking photos that convey a narrative.



Understanding the Essence of Street Photography

The goal of street photography is to record real events that arouse feelings and tell a story, not only to take images in public areas. Street photography, as opposed to posed portraiture, depends on spontaneity, astute observation, and a profound comprehension of human nature. There are countless opportunities to capture life, culture, and the subtleties of everyday encounters in a busy city.

Street photography is fundamentally about telling stories. Viewers should be taken to a particular moment by a well-composed street shot, giving them the impression that they are actually there. This calls for the capacity to predict events and respond quickly to them.

Equipment: Choosing the Right Gear

Having the proper gear may make a big difference when shooting in congested cities. Although expensive cameras and lenses provide better images, street photography is more about being mobile and discrete. The following are important gear considerations:

1. Camera Selection: Because of their portability and quick autofocus, mirrorless cameras and small DSLRs are great street photographers. Because of its understated appearance, rangefinder cameras are preferred by some photographers.

- 2. Lens Selection:** For street photography, prime lenses like a 35mm or 50mm are common options. These focal lengths enable natural compositions and closely resemble the viewpoint of the human eye.
- 3. Camera Settings:** A larger aperture (f/2.8 to f/5.6) improves subject isolation, while a quick shutter speed (1/250s or greater) aids in freezing motion. When lighting conditions change, auto ISO can be helpful.
- 4. Accessories:** Gear is kept accessible with a small shoulder bag or wrist strap. In private street situations, using a silent shutter mode reduces disturbances.

Techniques for Capturing the Perfect Shot

1. Blending In and Staying Invisible

There are many distractions in crowded places, which makes it simpler for photographers to go unnoticed. Keeping a low profile can be achieved by wearing neutral clothing and avoiding abrupt movements. Additionally, a compact camera can draw less attention from onlookers than a large setup.

The “shoot from the hip” method, which involves holding the camera at waist level rather than eye level, is one useful strategy. This makes it possible to take unscripted photos without getting too much notice.



2. Understanding Composition and Framing

An important aspect of street photography is composition. Among the fundamental ideas are:

- **Leading Lines:** Direct the viewer's attention to the subject by using sidewalks, roadways, or architectural features.
- **Rule of Thirds:** To create a composition that is more dynamic, place subjects off-center.
- **Layering:** To provide depth, include several objects in the backdrop, midground, and foreground.
- **Framing:** To frame subjects and provide context, use windows, doorways, or other objects.

3. Capturing Emotion and Gesture

Human emotions such as joy, sorrow, astonishment, and thoughtfulness are frequently captured in a striking street snapshot. Photographers can foresee these situations by exercising patience and observation. Body language, hands, and facial expressions can all be used to show emotion and enhance the narrative.

4. Playing with Light and Shadows

For street photography, natural light is crucial. While golden-hour illumination produces a cosy glow, harsh midday light can produce striking shadows. Some photographers use reflections from windows, puddles, or metal objects to give their images a creative touch.

Additionally striking are silhouettes and compositions built

on contrast, especially in urban areas with tall buildings that create intense shadows.

Navigating the Challenges of Crowded Environments

1. Dealing with Overcrowding

In a sea of people, it might be difficult to find a focal point. Finding subjects who stand out—someone with a striking attire, an odd smile on their face, or an intriguing posture—is one method to get around this. Another strategy is to isolate the main subject and blur out distractions by using a wide aperture.

2. Overcoming the Fear of Photographing Strangers

A common problem for street photographers is their fear of conflict. Tensions can be greatly reduced with a warm grin or a nod. It's preferable to apologise and move on if someone has a bad reaction. In certain situations, getting consent before taking a portrait might produce a more interesting and significant image.

3. Managing Unpredictable Elements

Cities are dynamic environments. Weather, foot traffic, and other elements all affect a shot. Accept uncertainty rather than battling it. Unplanned situations, like a toddler chasing a balloon, an unexpected downpour, or a brief encounter between strangers, are captured in some of the best street photos.



Post-Processing and Storytelling

When it comes to improving a street photo, editing is crucial. Small changes can increase an image's impact, but excessive editing should be avoided to preserve authenticity.

- **Cropping:** Composition is strengthened by eliminating extraneous parts.
- **Adjustments to Contrast and Exposure:** Deepness can be added by enhancing highlights and shadows.
- **Black and White Conversion:** Certain photos, which emphasise texture, contrast, and emotion, look best in monochrome.

Beyond technical adjustments, assembling a coherent set of photos can contribute to a gripping narrative. For instance, a collection of images documenting a city's everyday commute can shed light on city life.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Different nations have different laws pertaining to street photography. Despite the fact that many public areas permit photography without permission, it's crucial to be mindful of local laws. Photographers should also always respect the dignity and privacy of others.

When posting pictures online, think about how ethical and fair the representation is. Don't take pictures of people in awkward or upsetting circumstances without their permission or context.

Final Thoughts The Art of Observing

In densely populated cities, street photography is about more than just taking pictures; it's about connecting, watching, and sharing tales. The ideal shot is one that arouses strong emotions or captures a memorable moment, not necessarily the most technically exact one.

The streets are a never-ending source of inspiration, regardless of your level of experience. The secret is to constantly have your camera ready, be patient, and maintain your curiosity. Every city street may become a canvas for breathtaking, provocative imagery with enough effort and expertise.

TEXT: RAJAN GUPTA

DRONE

PHOTOGRAPHY ON THE ROAD: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Travel photography has evolved dramatically with the advent of drone technology. Drones allow photographers to capture breathtaking aerial perspectives that were once only possible with helicopters or planes. Whether you're documenting a scenic coastline, a bustling cityscape, or a remote mountain range, drone photography can elevate your travel portfolio. However, flying a drone while traveling comes with challenges—legal restrictions, safety concerns, and technical considerations. This guide covers everything you need to know about drone photography on the road, from regulations to best practices.



1. Understanding Drone Regulations

Before taking off, it's crucial to research local drone laws. Regulations vary by country and in case of India, can vary state-by-state and UTs. Violating them can lead to fines, confiscation of your equipment, a combination of the two or more.

Key Considerations:

- **Registration Requirements:** Many countries require drone registration (e.g., DGCA in India, FAA registration in the US, EASA rules in the EU).
 - **No-Fly Zones:** Airports, military bases, and national parks often prohibit drones. Apps like DroneMate can help identify restricted areas.
 - **Altitude & Distance Limits:** Most countries impose a maximum altitude (typically 120m/400ft) and require keeping the drone within visual line of sight.
 - **Privacy Laws:** Some regions have strict privacy laws against photographing people without consent.
- Pro Tip: Check government aviation websites for the latest rules before travelling.

2. Choosing the Right Drone for Travel

Not all drones are travel-friendly. Consider these factors when selecting one:

Portability

- **Foldable Drones:** Models like the DJI Mini 4 Pro or DJI Flip or Autel EVO Nano+ are compact and lightweight.
- **Weight Limits:** Micro drones often face fewer restrictions,

but also have their own limitations. Opt for them if required as they cause the least amount of disruption and can lead to smoother flights.

Battery Life & Charging

- Look for drones with 20+ minutes of flight time and carry spare batteries. In 2025, most drones qualify for this, however, it's a good idea to buy the "Fly More" combo available for every drone.
- Check if your destination uses compatible power outlets or bring a universal adapter.

Camera Quality

- **Sensor Size:** Larger sensors (1-inch or bigger) perform better in low light.
- **Resolution & Stabilization:** 4K video and 3-axis gimbals ensure smooth, high-quality footage.

Best Travel Drones in 2025:

- DJI Mini 4 Pro (Ultra-light, great for beginners)
- Autel EVO Lite+ (Excellent camera, longer flight time)
- Skydio 2+ (AI-powered obstacle avoidance)

3. Packing & Transporting Your Drone

Traveling with a drone requires careful packing to avoid damage or airport hassles.

Carry-On vs. Checked Luggage

- Always carry your drone in hand luggage—lithium batteries are prohibited in checked bags on many airlines.
- Use a hard-shell case (e.g., Pelican or DJI Fly More Case) for protection.

Airport Security Tips

- Be prepared for additional screening—TSA and other agencies may inspect drone batteries.
- Keep batteries at 30-50% charge for air travel to reduce fire risk.

4. Pre-Flight Checklist for Travel Drones

Before every flight, follow this checklist to ensure safety and compliance:

1. Check local drone laws, and to do that, use apps like Airmap or UAV Forecast.
2. Inspect your drone propellers, battery, and gimbal – make sure they're calibrated properly.
3. Calibrate the compass and IMU, especially after long-distance travel.
4. Check weather conditions and avoid high winds, rain, or extreme temperatures, which might give you less time in flight as well as less footage than expected – better to wait these out.
5. Find a safe takeoff/landing spot – avoid crowds and obstacles, especially trees and overhead power lines.

5. Capturing Stunning Travel Photos & Videos

Aerial photography opens up creative possibilities. Here's how to make the most of it:

Composition Tips:

- **Rule of Thirds:** Position key elements (roads, rivers, buildings) along grid lines.





- **Leading Lines:** Use natural or man-made lines (roads, coastlines) to guide the viewer's eye.
 - **Symmetry & Patterns:** Capture geometric landscapes, like terraced fields or urban grids.
- Best Times to Fly:**
- Golden Hour (sunrise/sunset) for warm, dramatic lighting.
 - Blue Hour (twilight) for cityscapes with glowing lights.
 - Broad daylight – daylight is the best because you can



- spot your aircraft visually anywhere and can also see obstructions in the way.
- Creative Techniques**
- **Orbit Shots:** Circle a landmark for cinematic footage.
 - **Top-Down (Nadir) Shots:** Perfect for abstract landscapes.
 - **Reveal Shots:** Start close to a subject, then ascend to reveal the surroundings.

6. Post-Processing Drone Footage

- Quick Editing Tips:**
- Adjust contrast, shadows, and vibrance for punchier images. Colour correct and grade according to your style.
 - Use gradient filters to balance sky and ground exposure – drone cameras might not have the best dynamic ranges. Also it's preferable if you can shoot RAW or Log (video).
 - Stabilize shaky footage – There still might be some due to winds – with warp stabilizer.

7. Ethical and Responsible Drone Flying

While drone photography offers incredible creative freedom (and is also fun), it also comes with a responsibility to respect people, wildlife, and the environment. Irresponsible flying can lead to legal trouble, damage to ecosystems, and negative perceptions of drone pilots. Here's how to fly ethically while travelling:

A. Respect Privacy and Local Communities

- **Avoid Intrusive Filming:** Never fly over private homes, backyards, or sacred sites without permission. Even in public spaces, be mindful of people who may not want to be photographed.
- **Follow Cultural Norms:** In some countries, drones are seen as invasive or even threatening. Research local attitudes—for example, flying drones near religious ceremonies or indigenous lands may be offensive.
- **Engage with Locals:** If someone expresses discomfort, land your drone and explain your intentions politely. Building goodwill helps maintain positive relations between drone pilots and communities.

B. Protect Wildlife and Natural Habitats

- **Keep Your Distance:** Drones can stress animals, causing



- them to flee or abandon nests. Maintain a safe altitude (at least 100m/330ft from wildlife) and avoid nesting or breeding areas.
- **Follow Park Rules:** Many national parks and protected areas ban drones to preserve ecosystems. Check regulations before flying—violations can result in hefty fines.
 - **Avoid Sensitive Environments:** Sand dunes, coral reefs, and fragile landscapes can be damaged by drone crashes or even rotor wash. Stick to durable surfaces for takeoff/landing.
- C. Minimise Noise Pollution**
- **Drones Can Be Annoying:** The buzzing sound can disrupt peaceful settings, like quiet villages or serene nature spots. Fly only when necessary and avoid prolonged hovering near people.
 - **Choose Quieter Models:** Some drones (like the DJI Mini series) are quieter than larger commercial models. If noise is a concern, opt for a less disruptive drone.

D. Leave No Trace

- **Pack Out Everything:** If you crash or need to replace parts, don't leave broken propellers or batteries behind. Lithium batteries can be hazardous to the environment.
- **Avoid Risky Manoeuvres Near Landmarks:** A drone crash into a historic site or natural wonder could cause irreversible damage. Always prioritise safety over getting the "perfect shot".

E. Educate Others and Lead by Example

- **Share Best Practices:** If you see other drone pilots acting irresponsibly, politely inform them of local rules (e.g. no-fly zones or altitude limits).
- **Support Responsible Drone Advocacy:** Join communities like Drone U or FPV Freedom Coalition that promote ethical flying and work with regulators to balance access and conservation.



Conclusion:
Keep The Blue Side Up

Drone photography is a game-changer for travel photographers, offering unique perspectives that ground-based shots can't match. However, success depends on understanding regulations, choosing the right gear, and flying responsibly. By following this guide, you'll be well-equipped to capture stunning aerial imagery on your next adventure—without legal trouble or safety risks.

TEXT: ANIRUDH IYER

PORTRAITS OF A CULTURE:

CONNECTING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Across language and country, portrait photography is a potent medium that provides a glimpse into a culture's essence. A well-drawn portrait has the power to unite disparate cultures, tell a tale, and evoke feelings. However, portraiture involves more than just technical proficiency to capture the spirit of a culture; it also calls for empathy, respect, and a sincere bond with the subjects.

This article examines the craft of cultural portraiture, methods for building relationships with local people, and the moral dilemmas associated with using photography to capture human tales. Regardless of your level of experience, this tutorial will help you gain a better knowledge of how to take meaningful pictures that capture the essence of a location and its people.





Understanding Cultural Portrait Photography

Cultural portrait photography is about telling stories, not just taking pictures of people. The subject and their surroundings should be authentically revealed in a beautiful portrait. It could depict the lines on an old craftsman's face that indicate years of practice, or a child's bright eyes that convey optimism and curiosity. These pictures turn into visual stories that help future generations remember customs, hardships, and holidays.

The difficulty is in looking past the obvious. In addition to portraying a person, a powerful portrait should allude to the broader cultural setting in which the subject lives. To do this, photographers must become fully immersed in a community, learn about its traditions, and establish a rapport with the subjects of their images.

The Art of Building Trust

1. Approach with Respect and Curiosity

It's crucial to approach a community with an open mind and heart before ever picking up a camera. Take the time to observe, listen, and learn about their traditions, customs, and lifestyle. Breaking down barriers involves having sincere

conversations and demonstrating interest in their tales.

2. Learn the Local Language

Trust may be built with just a few simple statements in the native tongue. People feel more at ease in front of the camera when they are greeted in their home tongue, have their name asked, or show thanks in their language.

3. Ask for Permission

A certain amount of cooperation with the subject is necessary for many cultural pictures, even though candid photography has its place. Before shooting someone's portrait, always get their consent, especially in societies where photography may be sensitive to social or religious issues. If you want to know if someone is comfortable being photographed, all you need to do is smile and point at your camera.

4. Offer Something in Return

Developing relationships requires reciprocity. Goodwill can be fostered by providing a little token, such as a printed copy of their photograph, a dinner together, or an authentic moment of conversation. In exchange for their participation, some photographers also work with regional singers, storytellers, or artists to help spread the word about their work.



Techniques for Capturing Authentic Portraits

1. Use Natural Light to Your Advantage

The authenticity of cultural portraiture is improved by natural light. Portraits get depth from the gentle, warm lighting that is available during the golden hours, which are just after sunrise and before sunset. Windows and entrances can be used as natural light sources indoors, giving subjects a soft glow.

2. Incorporate Environmental Elements

Adding aspects of the subject's environment gives portraits depth. Such background information, such as a dancer dressed traditionally, a blacksmith at his forge, or a fisherman with his net, sheds light on the subject's life and cultural identity.

3. Capture Expressions and Emotions

A good portrait expresses feelings in addition to physical characteristics. An expression can convey a lot, whether it is pride, joy, reflection, or fortitude. The best expressions can occasionally be found in unguarded situations, therefore patience is essential.

4. Choose the Right Lens and Camera Settings

For portraits, a 50mm or 85mm prime lens works best since it provides a natural perspective without warping face features. By separating the subject from the background, a wide aperture (f/1.8 to f/2.8) helps highlight their expression. A somewhat smaller aperture (f/4 to f/5.6) can guarantee that background features are still apparent in environmental photos, nevertheless.

The Role of Ethics in Cultural Photography

1. Representing Communities with Dignity

Photography has the ability to influence how others view a society. It's critical to avoid perpetuating prejudices and to represent people with dignity. Focus on capturing moments of power, beauty, and humanity rather than looking for pictures of poverty or adversity for dramatic effect.

2. Avoiding Exploitation and Consent Violations

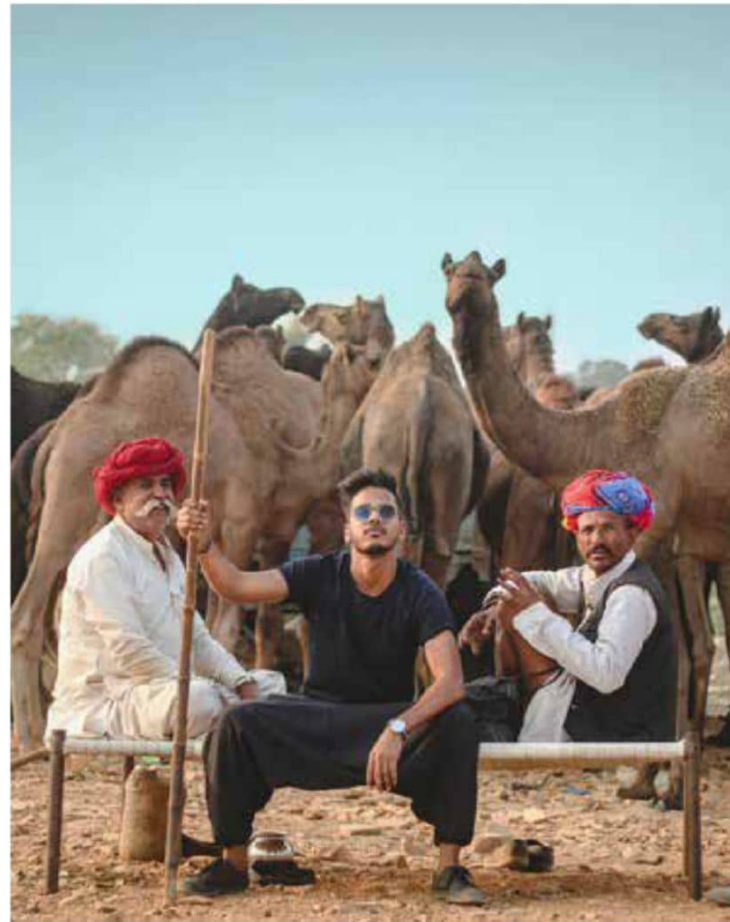
Photographers have come under fire in some areas for capturing photos without considering the cultural connotations. While certain groups may feel uneasy about being shot for public display, others may have spiritual beliefs around photography. Be mindful of when it's permissible to snap and share photos, and always respect local norms.

3. Giving Back to the Community

Photography should be about more than just taking; it should also be about giving. Think about giving to neighbourhood organisations, lending a hand with community projects, or teaching photography classes to young people in the area. One method to uphold ethical integrity is to share photos with the subjects and make sure they gain from the publicity.

Stories from the Field: Lessons from Cultural Portrait Photography

1. The Weavers of Oaxaca, Mexico



Traditional Zapotec weavers have been practicing their trade for generations in the hills of Oaxaca, Mexico. The community must first trust a photographer who wants to chronicle their efforts. More meaningful portraits can be created by sitting with the craftspeople, hearing their tales, and studying their complex weaving methods. An effective cultural photo would show the pride in their expressions as they continue their ancestral customs, rather than just their hands at work.

2. The Maasai Warriors of Kenya

Kenya's Maasai tribe are renowned for their elaborate embroidery and vivid red shukas. It is necessary to comprehend the meaning of their rituals and clothing in order to take their photos. Photographers can obtain permission to capture the life of elders in a genuine and significant manner by participating in local festivities and treating them with dignity.

3. The Street Musicians of Havana, Cuba

Music fills the streets of Havana, and its performers capture the essence of Cuban culture. Interaction is the key to taking striking photos of street performers. Portraits that accurately convey their passion and energy can be obtained by interacting with them, leaving a generous tip, and waiting for a moment when they are engrossed in their music.



Post-Processing: Enhancing Without Altering

Cultural portraits should be edited to improve the image while preserving authenticity. Contrast, sharpness, and colour balance adjustments help highlight details without warping reality. The unadulterated beauty of cultural portraiture can be diminished by excessive editing or the use of artificial effects.

Conclusion: Photography as a Bridge Between Cultures

People and cultures can form strong, enduring bonds through portrait photography. It becomes an effective storytelling technique when carried out with decency, curiosity, and moral rectitude. Photographers can produce photos that celebrate the diversity of humanity by interacting with the surroundings, establishing rapport, and treating people with respect.

Keep in mind that it's more than just the picture the next time you try to paint a portrait of a culture. It's about the tale, the connection, and the experience that each frame holds.

TEXT: RAJAN GUPTA

Travel Photography Gear on Budget

Travel photography is an exciting way to capture memories, landscapes, and cultures. Whether you're a beginner or a professional, having the right gear can make a huge difference. Below, we've curated the best travel photography gear across different budgets, from ₹40,000 to ₹5,00,000, covering cameras, lenses, and essential accessories.

Cameras & Lenses for Travel Photography

1. Budget Range: ₹40,000 – ₹1,00,000

You're just beginning to scratch the surface and want to explore what's out in the world with limited disruption to your travel experience. And you're okay with being called a tourist, these recommendations will suit you and also not break the bank.

Cameras:

- **Sony ZV-E10** – Great for vlogging and stills with a flip screen and excellent autofocus.
- **Canon EOS R50** – Compact mirrorless with 4K video and fast autofocus.
- **Fujifilm X-T30 II** – Small in hand, retro design with excellent colour science, fun to use.

Lenses:

- **Sigma 16mm f/1.4** – Wide-angle for landscapes, astro photos and environmental portraits, great for low-light as well
- **Sony 18-105mm f/4** – Versatile zoom for travel.
- **Tamron 17-70mm f/2.8** – Versatile zoom lens with a wide aperture suitable for a wide variety of shots.

2. Mid-Range: ₹1,00,000 – ₹2,50,000

You have a little bit of experience with Best for enthusiasts who want better performance and versatility

Cameras:

- **Sony A7 III** – Full-frame with great low-light performance.
- **Nikon Z6 II** – Excellent dynamic range and video capabilities.
- **Fujifilm X-T4** – Very capable APS-C camera with retro aesthetics, a flipable screen and film simulations that enhance the shooting experience.

Lenses:

- **Tamron 28-75mm f/2.8** – Sharp and lightweight for full-frame.
- **Sigma 18-50mm f/2.8** – Compact zoom with fast aperture.
- **Sony 20mm f/1.8 G** – Ultra-wide for astrophotography.

3. High-End: ₹2,50,000 – ₹5,00,000

Best for professionals and serious photographers who need top-tier performance.

Cameras:

- **Sony A7R V** – 61MP resolution for detailed landscapes.



- **Canon EOS R5** – 8K video shooting capability and 45MP sensor for high resolution stills.
- **Nikon Z8** – Flagship performance in a compact body.

Lenses:

- **Sony 24-70mm f/2.8 GM II** – Best all-in-one standard zoom lens, a must-have in a kit.

- **Canon RF 70-200mm f/2.8** – great starting point for a telephoto zoom lens.
- **Sigma 14-24mm f/2.8** – Ultra-wide for landscapes, environmental portraits, astro and more.
- **Nikon Z 24-120mm F/4 S** – a great all-rounder that has a versatile focal length along with the S badge, meaning superb optics.



Essential Travel Photography Accessories

1. Tripods & Stabilization

- **Manfrotto BeFree Travel Tripod** (₹10,000 – ₹15,000) – Lightweight and sturdy.
- **DJI RS 3 Mini Gimbal** (₹25,000 – ₹30,000) – For smooth video while travelling.

Backpacks ultimately are extremely diverse and are a personal choice on top of functionality for many. These recommendations are just an example.



2. Bags & Storage

Under ₹5,000:

- **Wildcraft Shutterbug Pro** (₹3500 – ₹5000) – Can carry one camera with several lenses, filters and cleaning kit with a pocket for a laptop in the back. Solid choice and value for money.
- **Digitek Holster Bag** (₹1,500 – ₹2,500) – Compact and lightweight, can carry one camera with lens easily.

Mid-Range (₹5,000+):

- **Loweepro ProTactic 350 AW** – Rugged and weather-resistant.

The Ultimate (₹10,000+)

- **Peak Design Everyday Backpack** – Stylish, functional, customizable, slightly water resistant.

3. Filters & Cleaning Kits

- **PolarPro Circular Polarizer** (₹5,000 – ₹7,000) – Reduces glares & reflections, useful for landscapes, aerial shots, automotive and more.
- **K&F Concept VND** (₹3000 – ₹8000) – high quality filters with little to no colour cast. (Oftentimes VNDs are combined with CPL filters, look out for them as well)
- **VSGO Camera Cleaning Kit** (₹1,500 – ₹2,000) – Essential for dust removal.



4. Lighting & Extras

- **Godox TT350 Flash** (₹7,000 – ₹9,000) – Compact travel flash.
- **DJI Mini 3 Pro** (₹70,000 – ₹80,000) – Lightweight drone for aerial shots.



Final Thoughts

Whether you're on a tight budget or ready to splurge, there's a perfect travel photography setup for you. From ₹40K–₹1L, focus on a good APS-C camera and a versatile lens. Pro tip, when starting out, seek used/unboxed/second-hand cameras & lenses as you can get some great deals like midrange bodies & lenses for the price of a beginner.

For ₹1L–₹2.5L, upgrade to full-frame (or get a better APSC body) for better low-light performance. For ₹2.5L–₹5L, you can invest in high-resolution bodies and pro-grade lenses. Don't forget accessories like tripods, bags, and filters—they can significantly enhance your travel photography experience.

TEXT: ANIRUDH IYER

PHOTO SCAPESCAPE

Use our hashtag [#photoscapeofthemonth](#) on Instagram to get featured
or
Send in your entries to asianphotographyindia@gmail.com

The Pic of the
Month in the
PHOTOSCAPE
section will receive
1 Year
Subscription
(12 E-Issues)



Name: Anjan Ghosh
Camera & Lens: Canon EOS 5D Mark IV
Focal length: 16mm
Shutter Speed: 1/2000s
Aperture: F/2.8
Instagram: @anjan.ghosh



Name: Abhishekh Choudhary
Camera & Lens: Nikon Z6 II and
24-120 mm F/4
Focal Length: 52mm
Shutter Speed: 1/200s
Aperture: F/f10
ISO: 320
Instagram ID: @abhisekhchaudhry



Name: Lakshminarayanan L
Camera & Lens: DJI Mini 3 pro
Focal length: 7mm
Shutter Speed: 1/320s
Aperture: F/1.7
ISO: 100
Instagram: @lakshmanl



Name: Neha Rawat
Camera & Lens: Nikon Z6 II & Z
28mm F/2.8
Focal Length: 28mm
Shutter Speed: 1/1600s
Aperture: F/2.8
ISO: 100
Instagram ID: @Batoohi



Name: Kaustubh Buley
Camera & Lens: Fujifilm X-T5 + XF 35mm F1.4 R Lens
Shutter Speed: 1/320s
Aperture: F/8
ISO: 125
Instagram ID: @camerawalayaar_



Name: Shubhadeep Das
Camera & Lens: DJI Mavic 3 Cine and Hasselblad lens.
Focal Length: 24mm
Shutter speed: 1/100s
Aperture: F/5
ISO: 100
Instagram ID: @shubhadeepdas_photography



Name: Rashid Khan
Camera & Lens: Sony A7 IV & 50mm F/1.8
Focal length: 50mm
Shutter Speed: 1/200s
Aperture: F/1.8
ISO: 2000
Instagram ID: @ikhana_rashid



Name : Saikat Mukherjee
Camera and Lens: Moto G54
Focal Length: 1.66 mm
Shutter Speed: 1/120s
Aperture: F/2.2
ISO: 100
Instagram ID: @saikatmukherjeephotography

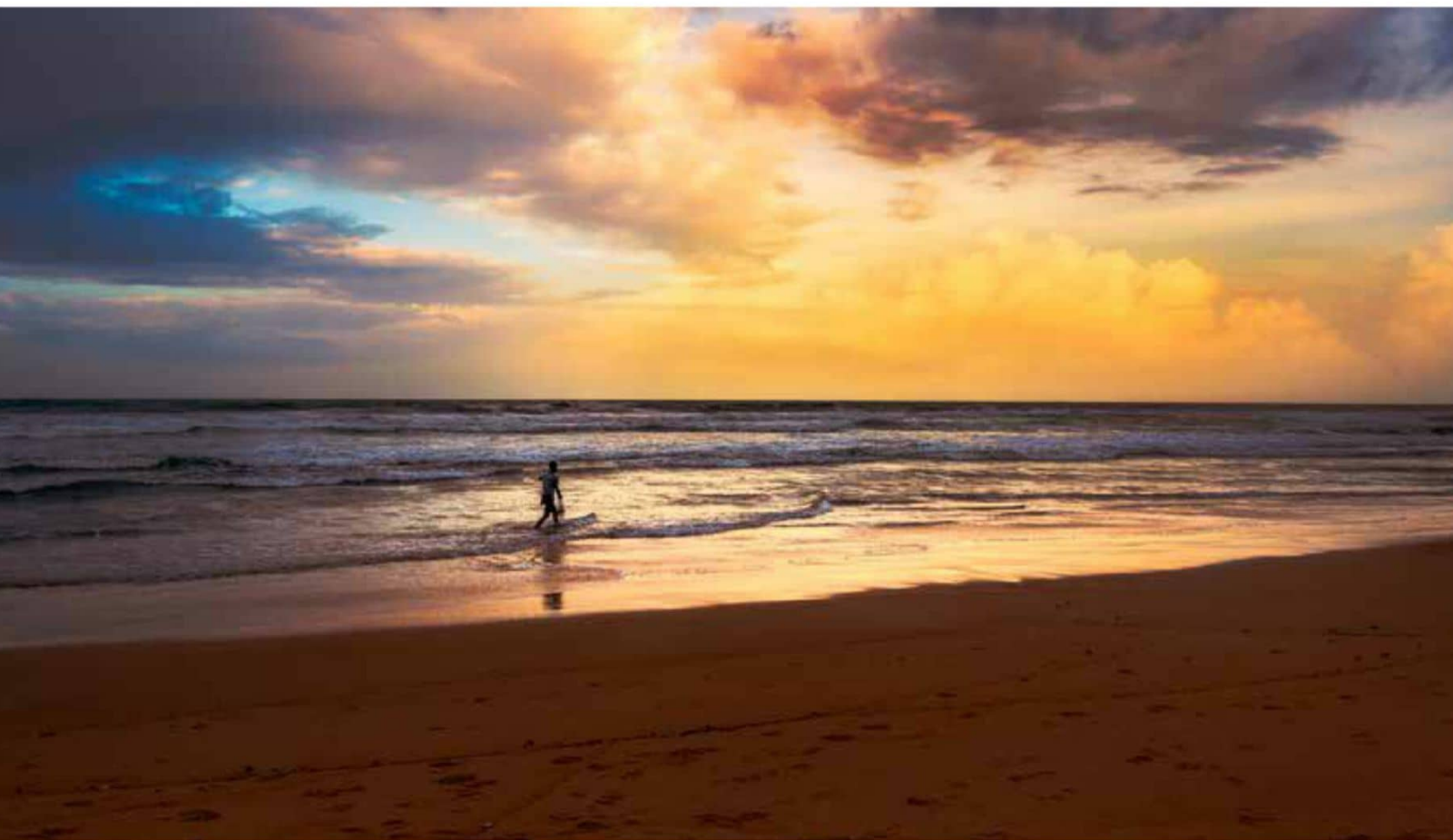


Name: Vijaykumar Kakade
Camera & Lens: Fujifilm GFX 100s II & GF 32-64mm F/4 R LM WR
Focal Length: 50mm
Shutter Speed: 1/400s
Aperture: F/11
ISO: 100
Instagram ID: @vijaykumar_kakade/

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In the crowded world of travel photography, I have carved a quiet, powerful niche for myself on the internet. My work is not just about places, people, or monuments; it's about moments, emotions, and untold stories. Each image feels like an intimate glimpse into how I see the world—one that often goes unnoticed until it's told. This rare ability sets me apart is where I pair visual beauty with meaningful narrative. Every photo I share isn't just an aesthetic capture—it's an invitation into a perspective. Whether it's the warriors in the air, the quiet resilience of a street vendor, or a storm that is brewing, I bring a unique emotional clarity to each frame. I have a subtle and intuitive eye for detail, allowing me to discover the soul of a place rather than just its surface. Through careful composition and natural light I create images that linger—evoking curiosity, and wonder. The accompanying captions are also personal reflections or poetic observations, drawing the viewer deeper into my world. In this collection, selected from my travels across places and cultures, my signature style is unmistakable. There's honesty in my work—no over-staging or artificial drama. For me, photography is more than a visual medium—it's a language. One that speaks of beauty, perspective, and the quiet stories that connect us all. Follow my visual journeys on Instagram and discover a world you've never seen—through a lens that sees what others often miss.

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